

**CRAWFORD COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT**  
**SOIL & WATER CONCERNS**  
**January 10, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Esser at 10:00 a.m. Esser verified the posting of the agenda. Members present for roll call were Henry Esser, Dave Olson and Don Dudenbostel. Wade Dull and Harriet Behar were excused.

Motion by Olson to approve the minutes as mailed, second by Dudenbostel. Motion carried unanimously.

**DAVE TROESTER, LAND CONSERVATION**

The department is starting to receive reimbursement monies from NRCS for the Cover Crop project. The Non-Metallic Mining fees for 2017 are also coming in. The Deer Council is meeting and has approximately 50 actions to vote on concerning the CWD issues. The snowmobile trails have been closed since Christmas. We will be organizing a Snowmobile training meeting in the Gays Mills area for SNARS Training for snowmobile clubs and LCD's from Crawford, Vernon, Richland and Sauk Counties; a new data entry system for clubs to receive reimbursements. Lots of FPP calls, COC's issued, and checklists are being received regarding the Farmland Preservation Program and Nutrient Management.

Tree Sales will be started and we will be checking with a forester to get input on seedling trees to sell for this year and hope to get the order forms developed within the week. The Poster and Speaking Contest deadlines are almost here and posters are due the end of this week, county speaking contest to be held the week of January 23<sup>rd</sup> with the area contest in Viroqua on January 31<sup>st</sup>.

Motion by Olson to allow Troester to attend the Driftless Area Symposium, second by Dudenbostel. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Motion by Esser to allow Troester and Bunting to attend the WLWCA Annual Conference in Elkhart Lake on March 15, 16, & 17, second by Olson. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Bills were presented. Olson made the motion to pay bills as presented, second by Dudenbostel, motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

**NMP REVIEW ISSUES**

Sue Porter was here and spent an entire day going over SNAP Plus software and what to look for in doing new plans or reviews of nutrient management plans. We need to decide what we will be doing as far as checking NMP for manure storage permits, cost-sharing programs, Farmland Preservation (approximately 75 plans that we get checklists yearly, as well as do a percentage of yearly farm visits, and approximately 2 to 3 new FPP plans yearly, etc. Discussion of randomly pulling a percentage of plans that hit each plan writer or doing only a certain number each year as well as pulling a percentage of individually written plans. We must remember that things that are not in the code we are unable to enforce. The committee stated we need to look at staff time for all activities and projects the department is involved in and how much time can be set aside for this process.

Dave indicated yesterday he had a conference call with Forest, CSP, and Steve Oberley, the individual that does the reviews for CSP. Discussion of the issue of anybody questioning a licensed CCA Plan Writer that is not a CCA licensed was discussed as well as redoing the county ordinance concerning quality assurance and putting more detailed requirements into the ordinance.

### **TRAVIS BUNTING, LAND & WATER PROJECTS**

Discussion concerning the damage done at the dam caused by a neighbor using a 4 wheeler and going through wet ground several times causing deep ruts, etc. A gate or cable (30 to 40 ft) will be placed as soon as the ground allows in the spring to keep people off of the dam property. The neighbor has offered to help repair the damage and the department will work with him to see if that is possible or if it is best just to let it be and request his help with spraying, etc. He feels it might be best just to get a bull dozer in to smooth out the ruts before it gets too hard. The NRCS engineer has looked at it and will give us a determination as to what needs to be done to properly repair the area.

Currently it is the surveying season and doing lots of design work. Due to Adam Achenbach being out of the office he will be very busy and Ralph Hemling has offered to help him whenever he is needed.

### **KARYL FRITSCH, NRCS**

Karyl indicated the cover crop payments are being generated. Since the end of September she has been processing payments and decided not to fund any contracts with the December deadline. There are a lot of applications and lots of money to be spent, but with no extra help with the additional projects it is impossible to keep up the work load and complete everything timely and accurately. There is another deadline coming up the end of March and a CSP deadline coming soon. She anticipates more strips to be requested this spring.

Discussion of privatizing the Aerial Cover Crop project to a local provider to do some of the organization, mapping and follow up to free up time for Dave and Karyl. The end of March Dave and Karyl will be presenting a Cover Crop meeting in Vernon county discussing the program and hopefully roll out next year's plan and seeding mixtures.

### **Kobby Antwi, DNR (not present)**

### **VANCE HAUGEN, UW Extension (non present)**

### **JOHN BAIRD, FSA**

John invited everyone to come and see their office renovation. The county committee election was held and Don Dudenbostel was voted in again and will continue to be the LCC's FSA representative.

The 2017 appointment process has started. FSA/DATCP cost share program for organic certifications is in the works. A new Pollinator Monarch Butterfly cost share program is also going on. Discussion of "Bridges of Opportunity" a one stop shop that will be a source of information to answer any and all off the wall questions producers and landowners may have. It will create a receipt for service information center.

### **Public Comment**

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 14, 2017.

Olson made the motion to adjourn at 11:15 a.m., second by Dudenbostel. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Wolcott  
Clerk III

DT:cjw